

Beginning Readers

INFOhio offers digital resources for beginning readers at no charge to all Ohio schools. The information below gives you specific ideas for using these tools to help children develop foundational reading skills, master early reader standards, and help them meet the Third Grade Reading Guarantee.

INFOhio Beginning Reader Digital Resources

Find all of these resources on the INFOhio website at www.infohio.org. Click PreK-5 and then click the links to the particular tool.



Scholastic BookFlix is an online literacy resource that pairs classic video storybooks from Weston Woods with related nonfiction eBooks from Scholastic. BookFlix stories can be searched by Lexile range, grade level, theme, etc. Each of the fiction/nonfiction pairs includes lesson plans and curriculum correlations.



Early World of Learning (EWOL) features narrated stories, interactive games, and videos that focus on critical areas of learning for students in early elementary grades. Lexile-leveled stories, BR to 630 in range, develop foundational reading skills. Encyclopedia entries written for very young students let them explore nonfiction topics. Materials for educators are included.



World Book Kids provides informational text written for early readers. It includes striking photography, videos, and current events articles. In addition, there are many ideas for classroom activities and other support for educators.

Developing Foundational Skills

Refer to the charts below for ways to use these three resources to help your beginning readers master reading foundational skills.

Print Concepts

Demonstrate understanding of the organization and basic features of print (K, 1)



BookFlix includes a read-along option with word-by-word highlighting. Children follow along as the storybook is narrated and the eBook is read aloud.

Students can move the mouse over highlighted text to see definitions of subject-specific words.



EWOL is a good tool for learning basic print concepts. Choose Welcome to Reading – Level A and read *Trek and His Friends*. As the story is read from left to right, words are highlighted on the page.

Students experience letters combined into words both visually and orally as the story is read aloud. As the story continues, students can view the words and the spaces between them as they are highlighted and read aloud.



Use this online resource to practice identifying online concepts for text such as where to start reading, how to scroll up and down, and what it means if the cursor turns into a pointing finger.

Along with an extensive dictionary for early readers, World Book Kids includes a thorough How to Use a Dictionary feature that explains alphabetical order, word entries, definitions, etc. Click Dictionary on the opening page.

Username:

Password:

Phonological Awareness

Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds (phonemes) (K, 1)



BookFlix includes some suggested activities to promote phonological awareness. Introduce students to words found in the paired books. Ask them to identify the initial sound in each word.

Given a list of spoken words used in the pair titles, ask students to identify the common sound (for example, *duck, dog, dairy*).



Click the Play button on the EWOL main page and then click Sorting to find games that help students identify letter sounds.

For example, the First Sound Sort-Consonants game asks students to sort pictures of objects based on the beginning sounds of the object names. Students place their cursor over the picture to hear the object's name read aloud. Students sort the images into the correct bucket by dragging and dropping.



Use the read aloud feature found under the gear-shaped Tools button at the top of any article. Project the article for the class and ask students to come up and highlight specific words, sounds, or syllables.

Writing is one way to reinforce phonological awareness. Some ways that students and teachers can use articles from World Book Kids for writing practice are: take dictation as the teacher reads the article aloud; use words from the article to write a story; read and write a paragraph or two each day based on an informational article from World Book Kids.

Phonics and Word Recognition

Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words (K, 1, 2, 3)



Recommended strategies and activities to connect BookFlix to phonics include selecting words from the paired books that appear on a basic sight or high-frequency word list. Make sure that students recognize these words.

Have students identify new words as they read/listen to the text and then use the words in a new context. Brainstorm a list of synonyms and antonyms for the new words.



The mini-lessons for Welcome to Reading include dozens of short lesson ideas on consonants, vowels, silent letters, suffixes, prefixes, and more.

To find the mini-lessons, click For Educators > Welcome to Reading. Choose a story in any of the levels and scroll down until you see the "mini-lessons" hyperlink.

Welcome to Reading Level B includes mini-lessons exploring long *i* as in *cry*, *oo* as in *good*, and *d* as in *sad*.

Welcome to Reading Level D includes mini-lessons on exploring long *a* as in *lake*, *tch* as in *catch*, and silent *k* as in *knight*.



Use the dictionary to find the syllables and parts of words from a list of words. Use the "Browse words before and after" list to make word families.

After locating an article in World Book Kids, students can take apart the article and make a list of important words (5 or more). Use a chart to identify the beginning sounds of each word. Determine the number of syllables in the word. Locate prefixes and suffixes, definitions for the words, etc. Have students partner to compare their charts.

Fluency

Read emergent–reader texts with purpose and understanding (K)
 Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension (1, 2, 3)



Place students in pairs and have them read all or portions of the books to each other.

Under resources there are a number of suggestions on how to support comprehension including:

- Ask students to summarize the book or story.
- Use a word web to show main and related concepts.
- Draw a timeline of events.
- Make and confirm predictions.
- Reread sections that were not understood.
- Find connections to other books or stories that they know.



Listening to the story read aloud can help students with fluency. Hearing the difference between a question and a statement when read aloud as well as the emphasis placed on certain words can encourage young readers to mimic the style and the tone of the stories being read.

Use the read-aloud feature to share stories with students. Ask them to identify areas where a question is being asked or an important idea is shared. Challenge them to explain what clues in the reading helped them to identify these areas.



Use World Book Kids to help students develop fluency by:

- Choral reading. Student(s) and teacher read the article together.
- Peer/Paired reading. First each child reads the article silently and then they take turns reading aloud to each other.
- Echo reading. The teacher reads a section of the article, and then the student reads the same section as they record the reading. The student can also record the reading alone.
- Tape/assisted reading. Read along with a recording of the article.
- Buddy Reading. An upper grade student listens to a lower grade level student read aloud.
- One minute reading graphs. Time students as they read through the article the first time and at different intervals thereafter. Chart the results to review progress.

Reading Literature Standards

BookFlix and EWOL feature hundreds of stories at different Lexile levels to support Ohio's Reading Literature Standards.

Key Ideas and Details K-3

Students ask and answer questions about key text details; retell familiar stories using key details; and name characters, setting, and major events. Within each grade level, students will demonstrate increased comprehension of key details, character, and setting as well as a moral or central message.



Choose a fiction title and focus on the main character. Ask younger students questions about the main character to help them know who it is. For older students, use a fable or folktale such as Gail E. Haley's *A Story, A Story*. Ask questions about how the main character helps them to understand the moral or central message of the story. Have them find text that supports their answers.



EWOL features a leveled reading program, Welcome to Reading. Many stories are about Trek, a scarecrow who is friends with the birds. Some of the stories have multiple-choice quizzes that accompany them in the games section. There are also sequencing games for students to play. For Educators contains lesson plans and other resources.



As an encyclopedia, World Book Kids features nonfiction articles, not literature. However, students can use it to explore more about the people, places, and things they discover through literature.

Craft and Structure K-3

Students will identify unknown words and words and phrases that add to the story or the reader’s appreciation and understanding of the story. Students will be led in increasing understanding of text types and how the structure of literature includes a beginning and an end. The roles of authors and illustrators will be explored, which will lead students to identify the speaker and different points of view from different characters.



Read a title with students and then complete the Which Came First puzzler which will ask students to put events in order. *Show Way* is a title which has a chronological progression and offers many characters in addition to the speaker.



Each eBook in EWOL comes with a lesson plan that features words students can learn and discuss in a word study. These lesson plans contain guiding questions and suggested activities for teachers to help students understand concepts such as speaker and point of view. Find the lesson plans under For Educators.



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Integration of Knowledge and Ideas K-3

Students will identify how illustrations are used within a story to support it and build on this to explain how information gathered from illustrations affects and influences the story and its characters, setting, or plot. Students will compare and contrast the experiences of characters within stories, and eventually, the characters in retellings of the same familiar story.



BookFlix’s video story-telling format lends itself well for the study of how illustrations affect and influence the text. Use *Martin’s Big Words*, for example, which uses powerful artwork and graphic elements to highlight the life of Martin Luther King Jr. Older students can compare and contrast this book with *Rosa* which uses simpler illustrations and photos, but is about a similar theme and events.



Very simple illustrations accompany the eBooks in EWOL. Turn off the read-aloud feature and ask students to study the pictures before reading. Talk with them about what they think will happen based on the pictures. After reading, talk about how the pictures helped them to predict what the story would be about. The stories about brother and sister Sam and Lizzy are especially helpful as students learn to compare and contrast the experiences of characters from different stories.



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Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity K-3

Students will participate in reading activities and read texts at levels of appropriate complexity.



Use the Search feature to find books by Lexile. Adjust the titles you use with your students based on quantitative and qualitative criteria, including student interest, as well as meaning, structure and language.



Use the Welcome to Reading program to help your students advance their reading skills and begin to read more difficult text. Level A includes Lexiles BR-190, B includes BR-350, C includes 270- 640, and D includes 350-640.



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Reading Informational Text Standards

BookFlix, EWOL, and World Book Kids all contain nonfiction books and articles that you can use to introduce informational text to early elementary students.

Key Ideas and Details K-3

Students ask and answer questions about key text details; identify the main topic in single to multiple paragraphs; and describe connections between people and events, and eventually scientific ideas and steps in technical procedures.



Read a nonfiction title with students and ask them to complete the Fact or Fiction puzzler. Talk with students about the connections within the text events, people, or steps in a procedure. For example, the book *Inside an Ant Colony* explores how ants work and live and shows how their actions are connected.



Early World has nonfiction text in multiple formats. First, look at Know It, a visual and interactive encyclopedia. Provide guided questions for students as they read the facts about a topic or view a short video. Welcome to Reading has nonfiction eBooks as well. Use the read-aloud feature with the class, and then collect evidence from them to support the main idea.



The Games section on World Book Kids' menu offers many games that can be used with articles from the encyclopedia to check for comprehension and educational connections. For example, there is a crossword puzzle for medicine. The game links to the article, and provides helpful tips to students when stuck.

Craft and Structure K-3

Students will identify unknown words and words and phrases, leading up to content-specific words; identify parts of text, from front and back cover, to table of contents and glossaries, and finally to subheadings and bold print; identify author and illustrator and their influence on text through words and details ending with the understanding of author's purpose.



Students can play the Word Match puzzler after reading the nonfiction title in the book pairs. Practice with younger students how to find the author or illustrator in an online book. Talk about highlighted words and subheadings with older students to help them identify how these help them understand text.



Lead students through the interactive encyclopedia Know It and help them get used to reading online text. Collect unknown words in a list and work with students to identify the meanings by using the illustrations, diagrams, photos, and videos that accompany the interactive articles.



World Book Kids features a dictionary, which makes it very easy for students to find the meaning of unknown words. It is also easy to search for an unknown word by using the search box at the top of each article. Before using the resource, lead students on a group search and discover the different elements together, from the Pictures, Videos and More tab with articles, to the Tools tab where students can hear the text read aloud or can print the article.

Integration of Knowledge and Ideas K-3

Describe the relationship between text and illustrations and describe how they support key ideas. Eventually describe how specific images contribute to the text. Identify why an author gives reasons in text and how the reasons support points. Find similarities and differences in two texts on the same topic.



BookFlix's nonfiction titles have many colorful illustrations. Use them to highlight an event within the text, such as the opening picture in the title *New York City*. Compare and contrast this book to the title *Australia* and talk about how the two books give information with their first illustrations.



Use two Know It articles on a similar topic and ask students to explore what is the same and what is different. For example, the Plants section in Know It has an article on cactus and one on ferns. Look at the illustrations and discuss what information they can find there that is also in the text. The cactus article talks about flowering cactuses. There is a video as well to use to compare and contrast.



World Book Kids' stunning homepage features a full-screen photo of a topic. Photos can be browsed easily using arrows. Project an image for students and lead a group discussion about it. Ask students what facts they can find just by looking at the image, and then click on the article link and ask students to identify any of the facts from the text that are the same as what were shared previously.

Range of Reading and Level of Text Complexity K-3

Read in groups and alone at complex levels, both in reading practice and in content areas.



BookFlix can be searched by Lexile level. You can use this resource in a group or work alone with students who need help in specific areas.



The nonfiction eBooks found in Welcome to Reading are Lexiled. Use them to help students read at level or to challenge them with complex text.



There are Lexile levels given for most of the articles in World Book Kids. To find the Lexile, use the Contents tab in the upper right-hand corner.